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# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

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Christopher Shays, Connecticut  
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Room B-372 Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
Tel: 202 225-2548  
Fax: 202 225-2382

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September 2, 2004

The Honorable David M. Walker  
Comptroller General  
U.S. Government Accountability Office  
441 G Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20548

Dear Mr. Walker:

Department of Defense (DOD) regulations (DOD Instruction 5210.87, dated 30 Nov 1998) stipulate that all persons directly associated with Presidential Support Activities (PSAs) such as the manufacture, repair and maintenance of the presidential helicopter fleet must meet the highest Defense Department security clearance requirements. Among other things, this clearance requires "all relevant personnel to be citizens of the United States who are not married to non-citizens and who possess unquestionable loyalty to the United States."

Potential vulnerabilities to presidential support duties include the disruption of the supply chain, risk to critical parts manufactured and sealed in a foreign country, and protection of intellectual property for sensitive procurements.

The Subcommittee requests the Government Accountability Office (GAO) examine how DOD assesses compliance with this directive and other

security requirements applicable to sensitive procurements. Accordingly, the Subcommittee requests the GAO examine how compliance with DOD Instruction 5210.87 is established and monitored.

If you have any questions, please contact Lawrence Halloran or Vincent Chase of the Subcommittee staff at 202-225-2548. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christopher Shays". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C".

Christopher Shays  
Chairman

cc:

Hon. Tom Davis  
Hon. Henry Waxman  
Hon. Dennis J. Kucinich  
Hon. Michael Turner